

Amendment and Response

Page 9 of 10

Serial No.: 10/028,616

Confirmation No.: 6755

Filed: December 21, 2001

For: METHODS FOR PLANARIZATION OF GROUP VIII METAL-CONTAINING SURFACES USING A
FIXED ABRASIVE ARTICLE**Remarks**

The Office Action mailed July 13, 2005 has been received and reviewed. Claims 3, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 23 and 27 having been amended, and claims 1, 2, 15, 24, 25, 26, 34 and 42 having been canceled, the pending claims are claims 3-14, 16-23, 27 and 28-41. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Statement

A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was submitted by Applicants on July 27, 2004. However, Applicants have not received an initialed copy of the 1449 form submitted with the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement indicating that the listed documents were considered by the Examiner. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the 1449 form is attached as EXHIBIT A. Consideration of each of the documents listed on the attached 1449 form is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. §609, Applicants further request that a copy of the 1449 form, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with the next Official Communication.

The 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

The Examiner rejected claims 1-33, 35-38, and 42 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Russel et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,395,194) as modified by James et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,069,080), and further in view of Sachan et al. (WO 01/44396). This rejection is respectfully traversed. In the interest of expediting prosecution, these claims have either been cancelled or amended to depend from allowed claim 39 or include language analogous to allowed claim 39. Applicants reserve the right to pursue these rejected claims and present arguments in a continuation application.

Allowed Claims

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating claims 39-41 are allowed. All pending claims now recite language analogous to that in allowed claim 39.

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FIXED ABRASIVE ARTICLE**Summary**

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims 3-14, 16-23, 27 and 28-41 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's Representatives, at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted for
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By
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Oct. 13, 2005
Date

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8:

The undersigned hereby certifies that the Transmittal Letter and the paper(s), as described hereinabove, are being transmitted by facsimile in accordance with 37 CFR §1.6(d) to the Patent and Trademark Office, addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 13th day of October, 2005, at 10:30am (Central Time).

By: Sam E. Wigant
Name: Sara E. Wigant